

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 133-2005



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: May 23, 2005

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

Subject: WORLD OCEANS DAY

This Letter to the City Commission is to provide information about a World Oceans Day event that will be held in the outside foyer of City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, on Wednesday, June 8, 2005, from 11-2pm.

The United Nations declared June 8 World Oceans Day during the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. The purpose of World Oceans Day is to raise awareness about the importance of oceans and to inspire people to protect and preserve our seas through activities and events that promote ocean health.

In observance of World Oceans Day, representatives from the Miami-Dade Parks Sea Turtle Nesting and Relocation Program will present information on sea turtles to City of Miami Beach employees, residents, and to children from the Miami Beach Parks and Recreation Department summer camps. There are five species of sea turtles found in Florida, and all are protected under the U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973 and Florida Law Chapter 370. Florida sea turtles make about 40,000 and 84,000 nests annually. Each nest contains between 80-120 eggs, and only about one in 1,000 baby turtles survive to adulthood. Illegal harvesting, habitat encroachment, artificial lighting on the beaches, and pollution are a few of the ways our society threatens the survival of sea turtles. The goal of this event is to raise awareness about the importance of the endangered sea turtles, and the importance of their home- the ocean.

If you have any additional questions, you may contact the Environmental Resources Management Division at 305-673-7080.

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